

A U S T I N C I T Y C O U N C I L

AGENDA



Thursday, October 19, 2006

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Office of Emergency Management RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

ITEM No 15

Subject Approve a resolution electing not to allow the State of Texas to use local Homeland Security grant program funds for statewide projects

Amount and Source of Funding Funding in the amount of \$1,064,713 is available from the State of Texas, Governor's Division of Emergency Management

Additional Backup Material

(click to open)

No Attachments Available

For More Information

The State of Texas is requiring, as part of eligibility to receive Fiscal Year 2006 Homeland Security funds, a signed Election Form which is an Agreement authorized under the provisions of Chapter 791 (Interlocal Cooperation Act) of Texas Government Code. On the Election Form, the City of Austin is asked to either check or not check boxes which assign local funds to the State for use on statewide projects. It may be possible that the funds outlined on the Election Form will ultimately be awarded to the City of Austin if we do not provide authorization to the State to use the funds.

The State of Texas receives an allocation from the federal government of homeland security grant funds for state-related projects and administration. The State passes these grant funds onto local jurisdictions after deducting an amount that it retains for its own state-wide purposes. This year, in addition to retaining its share of grant funds, the State is requesting to receive additional funding that would normally be designated for local use.

City staff recommends denial of this request. Staff believes that the State has not properly demonstrated what the actual costs will be to implement the Regional Emergency Exercises project and the TDEX Implementation project in our region. If the estimates are too high, this will result in the loss of grant funds to the Central Texas region. If the estimates are too low, the projects may not be implemented as needed. Furthermore, the Live Scan Implementation project is already in place in Austin and is not needed.

The CAPCOG Homeland Security Task Force has recommended that no jurisdiction authorize the State to use any funds designated for local jurisdictions. The CAPCOG Executive Committee has also approved a motion to return CAPCOG's Election Form without checking boxes on the form.

The State of Texas is asking to use grant funds as follows: \$140,784.06 for regional emergency exercises, \$571,912.48 for TDEX implementation, and \$352,016.91 for Live Scan implementation.

Denial of this request will result in these funds being made available to CAPCOG to be used for local homeland security purposes.